

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WILBUR (BILL) L. ROBERTS JR. SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 1, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of a great American Lieutenant Commander Wilbur Roberts Jr. I honor him today for his service to our Nation in the United States Navy.

Lieutenant Commander Roberts has dedicated 28 years of his life to the United States Navy and as of November 1, 2005 will be officially retired from service. LCDR Roberts' career began as an equipment operator in the Seabees in 1977 after joining the Navy from his home town of Wells, Nevada.

During his service in the United States Navy Lieutenant Commander Roberts has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Science from Oregon State University. He also attended the Naval Post Graduate School, in Monterey, California, where he earned a degree in Operations Logistics. Over the course of his 28-year-career, he has served in a number of positions such as, a Communications Officer, Replenishment at Sea Equipment Officer, and Operations Officer in a number of areas supporting naval operations.

In addition to his service as an Operations Officer, Lieutenant Commander Roberts has served as the Executive Officer of the USS *Sacramento* and in 2003 reported to Commander, Carrier Strike Group Three as a Maritime Operations Officer. He ends his career while serving CCSG-3 as Assistant Chief of Staff for material, N4.

Lieutenant Commander Roberts has earned a number of awards throughout his career including, the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Good Conduct Medals and a number of other unit awards.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I salute Lieutenant Commander Roberts for his service and dedication to our great Nation.

LEARNING AN IMPORTANT LESSON FROM OUR CHILDREN

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 1, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, many thousands of American men and women are serving in Iraq under very dangerous conditions. Often, we at home go about our daily business and forget the deep loyalty and responsibility of our brave soldiers half a world away. And even more, we often forget what war means for the children in Iraq.

I want to tell you, today, about a community of young people who have not forgotten that our soldiers are in Iraq, or that their mission is, ultimately, to build peace. These first, second and third graders at Elmore Lake School in Vermont not only remember the larger mission of our soldiers, they have sent packages to

reach out to the children of Iraq, who like themselves are students in schools.

These young students at Elmore Lake School also wrote letters to Iraqi school-children, made pictures for them, and then put the letters and pictures into parcels filled with school supplies that the Elmore children packed and weighed for mailing. They were assisted by their teacher, Annamary Anderson and parent Sarah Southall, and by Vermont National Guard Captain Dave Matzo, who distributed the packages when he returned to Iraq from a home leave. The contents of the packages were provided by the school's children and their families. The Lamoille Valley Chamber of Commerce found kind sponsors who paid the cost of postage.

The letters written by the children remind us, remind us all, that war is not something abstract, but a situation which involves human beings. Here is one example, a letter from a student named Sebastian that was reprinted in the *News and Citizen* of Morrisville. It is remarkably eloquent, not only in its ability to reach out across oceans and continents to children elsewhere, but in its reminder to all of us of just what war may mean to those who must live in its midst:

DEAR CHILDREN IN IRAQ, I feel bad for you because you are probably scared because you have a war going on in your country. I don't think it is right for kids to have to deal with this. I don't even know why people are fighting! I would definitely be very scared if I had a war going on close by! So my class in school thought we should give you kids school supplies. I hope the war stops soon, there is already enough bad things going on in your country! I wish you good luck!

Sincerely,

SEBASTIAN L.W.

I offer my deep respect, and that of my state and Nation, to these thoughtful and giving young students in Elmore, who have taught all of us to think deeply about war and about generosity.

IN HONOR OF ROSA PARKS, "MOTHER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT"

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 1, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of the civil rights icon Rosa Louise Parks. Almost half a century ago, Mrs. Parks' refusal to surrender her bus seat triggered the first organized actions in the civil rights movement. Because of her action that day, Mrs. Parks will always be remembered as the "mother of the civil rights movement."

Rosa Parks was born in Tuskegee, Alabama on February 4, 1913. As a girl, she wrote, "I had a very strong sense of what was fair." She led a life dedicated to improving civil rights and acted as an inspiration to many Americans.

On December 1, 1955, Mrs. Parks sat in an unreserved section of a city bus. When asked to give up her seat for a white man she politely refused. It is a common misconception that Rosa Parks was unwilling to give up her seat because she was tired from a long day at work. As she told it, "the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."

Mrs. Parks' act of civil disobedience is the popular inspiration that led to Martin Luther King Jr.'s decision to lead a bus boycott that lasted an amazing 381 days. On November 13, 1956, in an important victory for the civil rights movement, the Supreme Court outlawed segregation on buses. The civil rights movement would experience many important victories, but Rosa Parks will always be remembered as its catalyst.

Mrs. Parks was a shy, soft spoken woman who was uncomfortable being revered as a symbol of the civil rights movement. She only hoped to inspire young people to achieve great things. However, in 1996 her place in U.S. history was cemented when she was awarded the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Bill Clinton. Mrs. Parks passed away October 24th at the age of 92, at her home in Detroit.

Rosa Parks will be remembered for her lasting contributions to society. Her legacy lives on in the continued struggle for civil rights around the world. She will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. "BILL" MAIO

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 1, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Mr. William J. "Bill" Maio, a community leader and dedicated servant on behalf of the people of DuPage County, Illinois. In 25 years of selfless public service, he has own himself to be a man of great energy, conviction and action.

Mr. Maio began his public service as a member of the school board for the Village of Wood Dale, Illinois. During his subsequent years in elective office, Mr. Maio served as a member of the DuPage County Board including a stint as its vice chairman. He also served as chairman of the Government Efficiency Committee, helping to save millions for the taxpayers.

In addition to his years of public service, Mr. Maio has also dedicated his enormous talent and energy to vital community and civic organizations. He has served as a past president of the Wood Dale Chamber of Commerce, as well as past president of the Wood Dale Lions Club. Mr. Maio has played an active role in the lives of the youth in his community, taking time out to coach and manage little league teams.

A veteran of the Vietnam War, Mr. Maio, first served his nation faithfully from 1966–1968 in the United States Army as a member of the 4th Army, as well as the 579th Ordnance Company of the Advanced Weapons Support Group. He was recalled to service in 1970 and assigned to the 12th Special Forces Group. Mr. Maio is a lifelong member of the American Legion and Vietnam Veterans Association. With his wife of 35 years, Gail, the pair have a daughter, Kim.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and the residents of the Sixth Congressional District of Illinois, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and very best wishes to Mr. William J. "Bill" Maio for his years of devotion and enthusiastic service to the people of DuPage County.